

Heavy-duty trucks, buses and motorhomes are part of Ontario's Drive Clean program.

Smog presents a serious health threat to all of us. And vehicles are the largest local source of smog-causing pollutants in our urban and surrounding areas. That's why Ontario has implemented Ontario's Drive Clean program, to reduce smog-causing emissions from vehicles of all types and sizes including passenger vehicles, heavy-duty trucks, buses, and motorhomes.

Testing became mandatory for designated heavy-duty trucks and buses in September of 1999, because these vehicles account for 70 per cent of the transportation-related microscopic particles in the air that can irritate the lungs and respiratory system. Annual tests are required for diesel-powered vehicles registered anywhere in Ontario and to non-diesel vehicles – those powered by gasoline, propane or natural gas – in the Ontario smog zone, the area where light-duty vehicle tests are required.

This brochure spells out the requirements for heavy-duty vehicles. It also includes certain other large vehicles, including some motorhomes, which require testing as heavy-duty vehicles but are classed along with light-duty passenger vehicles for the required frequency of testing.

What heavy-duty vehicles are being tested?

Heavy-duty vehicles such as trucks and buses with a Registered Gross Weight (RGW) of more than 4,500 kilograms must have an annual test for licence plate renewal. Normally, these vehicles will also have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) assigned by the manufacturer of more than 4,500 kilograms.

Heavy-duty vehicles with both RGW and GVWR over 4,500 kilograms

Vehicles:

- Diesel-powered vehicles registered anywhere in Ontario
- or
- Non-diesel-powered vehicles registered in Drive Clean Phases 1, 2, or 3 (see brochure map).

Test required:

- Annually for renewal of diesel and non-diesel vehicles older than three model years
- or
- On resale of diesel and non-diesel vehicles older than the current model year

Test facility:

- Accredited to test heavy-duty diesel or non-diesel vehicles

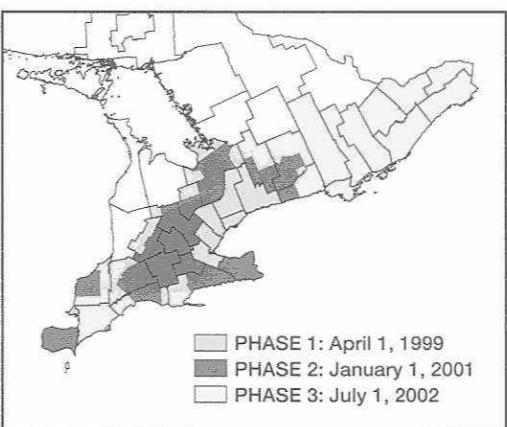
Test fee:

- Set by facility at market-based rate

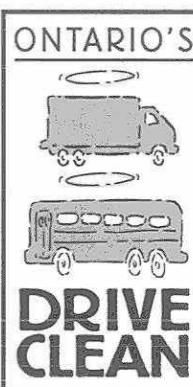
Repair cost limit and conditional pass:

- Not available

Drive Clean Program Areas



Do you own a truck, bus or motorhome?



Your vehicle may require a Drive Clean emissions test.

For more information on Ontario's Drive Clean call:

1-888-758-2999
or visit www.driveclean.com



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How are heavy-duty vehicle owners notified of test requirements?

Owners of heavy-duty vehicles (**RGW** over 4,500 kilograms) will receive a notice once a year of the emissions test requirement along with the 60-day vehicle licence renewal application.

What tests are given to heavy-duty vehicles?

Diesel vehicles are tested according to the Society of Automotive Engineers Standard "Snap Acceleration Smoke Test Procedure for Heavy-Duty Diesel-Powered Vehicles" (SAE J1667). The test measures opacity, the amount of light that is blocked by the particulate matter in the exhaust smoke. The opacity standard for 1991 models and newer is 40%; for 1990 models and older, the standard is 55%.

Non-diesel vehicles must pass a two-speed idle test in which carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons are measured at two pre-determined idle speeds.

Finding heavy-duty test locations

You can find the locations of accredited Drive Clean facilities for testing both diesel and non-diesel vehicles by contacting the Drive Clean Call Centre at 1-888-758-2999 or by visiting the Drive Clean web site, www.driveclean.com

What will the heavy-duty vehicle test cost?

Fees for heavy-duty vehicle tests and re-tests are set by the Drive Clean facilities and are based on market rates. Vehicle owners can shop around for the lowest test cost.

What happens after the heavy-duty vehicle test?

You will receive a test report, showing whether your vehicle passed the test or exceeded the emissions limits. If you passed, you should take the pass report with you to a vehicle licence issuing office along with the other documentation necessary for licence renewal or ownership transfer.

If the vehicle does not meet the emissions standards, it must be repaired, re-tested and pass in order to have the licence plate renewed. The vehicle can be repaired wherever you wish, since there are no accredited heavy-duty vehicle repair facilities, nor is there a limit on what must be spent on emissions-related repairs.

A Drive Clean pass is valid for 12 months from date of issue for licence plate renewal or ownership transfer.

How do I know that the tests are accurate?

All emissions-testing equipment used in accredited Drive Clean facilities must be approved by the Ministry of the Environment. The Ministry also ensures that emissions inspectors are properly trained. Equipment is regularly calibrated to ensure its accuracy. And all facilities are regularly monitored and audited.

There is zero tolerance for consumer abuse in Drive Clean. If you disagree with test results, you are urged to contact the Drive Clean Call Centre as soon as possible at 1-888-758-2999 to make your concern known.

What are common causes of excessive smoke?

A smoking vehicle is usually a sign of a poorly maintained engine. Common causes of excessive smoke include:

- clogged or worn fuel injectors
- misadjusted injection timing
- clogged air filters
- engine tampering

Excessive smoke results in higher vehicle operating costs, lower fuel economy and shorter engine life. Proper maintenance reduces emissions and saves money.

What are the rules for motorhomes and certain other large vehicles?

Certain large vehicles, including some motorhomes, are classed with light-duty vehicles because they have a **Registered Gross Weight (RGW)** of 4,500 kilograms or less (or no **RGW** at all) on their registration papers.

However, if the manufacturers have assigned **Gross Vehicle Weight Ratings (GVWR)** of more than 4,500 kilograms to their vehicles, these large vehicles must always be tested as heavy-duty vehicles. You will usually find the **GVWR** stamped on a plate affixed to the door frame of the vehicle.

What difference does this make to vehicles such as motorhomes?

At the start of Drive Clean, all vehicles with an **RGW** of 4,500 kilograms or less (or no **RGW**) and all motorhomes were tested at light-duty facilities because the emissions testing program for heavy-duty vehicles was not yet in place. Now, heavy-duty facilities are available in all program areas to accommodate the larger vehicles with a **GVWR** over 4,500 kilograms, which means that they are receiving tests appropriate to their size and engine power.

Owners of large vehicles with a **RGW** of 4,500 kilograms or less and a **GVWR** over 4,500 kilograms will continue to receive a notice of test requirements for light-duty vehicles every two years, up to 90 days prior to licence plate expiry. They will be subject to light-duty vehicle rules as to test frequency and where vehicles are registered to require a test.

Vehicles with RGW of 4,500 kilograms or less (or zero) but a GVWR of more than 4,500 kilograms

Vehicles included:

- Diesel vehicles and non-diesel vehicles registered in Drive Clean's Phases 1, 2, or 3 areas (see brochure map)

Test required:

- Every two years for renewal of licences for vehicles older than three model years but less than 20 model years, or
- On resale of vehicles older than the current model year but less than 20 model years

Test facility:

- Accredited to test heavy-duty diesel or non-diesel vehicles

Test fee:

- Set by facility at market-based rate

Repair cost limit and conditional pass:

- Not available

However, since the **GVWR** is over 4,500 kilograms, these vehicles must be tested as heavy-duty vehicles. This means that these vehicles are also governed by heavy-duty vehicle rules as to test fees, the repair cost limit and the conditional pass.

What are you doing about out-of-province vehicles using Ontario roads?

All vehicles, including those registered in Ontario as well as those from outside of the province, are subject to Ontario's laws on vehicle emissions. Ontario's Smog Patrol conducts random on-road inspections to identify and ticket grossly polluting vehicles as well as those which have emissions equipment that has been tampered with or removed. A vehicle can be stopped and the operator ticketed even after a Drive Clean test, if that vehicle is believed to be violating Ontario's emissions standards. The Smog Patrol also uses the **GVWR** of vehicles to determine whether a vehicle is heavy-duty or light-duty when applying appropriate emissions standards.

**For more information on
Ontario's Drive Clean
call 1-888-758-2999
or visit www.driveclean.com**